CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA. WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1862.

THERE is no use in attempting to disguise the fact that we are on the eve of events of the most momentous character, or that the position of things is painfully critical. The present is no time for concealmen's. The public, in order to have confidence, must be treated with confidence. The people of the Confederacy, by their patriotism and constancy, have established their right to such treatment, and any other course will do harm. Island Number Ten has fallen. We have feared as much and more. We now first learn the fact through Federal sources. We must fear that this concealment or suppression of news, will do harm. want to publish nothing that will interfere with the military operations of the government in any way. are not quite fools enough to be willing to do anything to add to the risk of the vessel in which our own humble lives and fortunes are embarked. But we are now come to the time when concealments are useless as they are needless. They can do no good, and the plainest truth, most plainly stated, can do no barm. The people are not afraid of the truth; if we thought they were. then indeed we might be given to despair of the Republic. But they are not. They are afraid of the secrecy that lay quiet, that suffered Albert Sidney Johnston to stand so long at Bowling Green without force, for fear of letting his weakness be known by taking the people at once into confidence, and appealing to them, as had finally to be done, with this difference, that if it had been done at once. Beauregard's troops at Ccrinth would by this time have all been seasoned veterans, and not, as too many of them must now be, new, though brave

We know that these remarks are distateful, but they are true. We know that President Davis and his cabinet and all his officers, all indeed who not only have the fate of their country at heart, but a vast responsibility connected with her destinies upon their shoulders, are entitled to ask for and receive not only a ready support but a kind construction for all their acts, which are unquestionably dictated by an honest desire to promote the public good and secure the public ind pendence in the tremendous conflict now pending. The government Is as much interested as the people. The members of the government are of and from the people, and have the same rights to defend, the same interests to protect that the people have. They share the same dangers with the people, only in a still greater degree, as their prominence makes them a more conspicuous mark. It is in the perfect mutual confidence and full understanding a d coord between the people and their agents that the hopes of the patriot must be founded. foundation, they must be doomed to disappointment.

We make these remarks with none of the feelings of mere newsmongers, deprived of exciting pabalum for a daily issue. The duties and the labors of the conscientious conductors of the public press in these times are painful and harrassing to a degree which few understand or appreciate, and require frequently a serious effort to bring the mind up to their due performance in the midst of the trials of the country and the feelings of the individual. But they are necessary, for they afford the great medium by which, to a certain extent, the country bolds ers its own maladies and suggests its own remedies. Of an institution, and we except from the preceding remarks in this paragraph the few who would seize the of the South or of any other country exhibited a higher spirit or a purer moral tone, and it can well afford to let pass the small sacers of the few officials in epaulets or out of them who think it something approaching to statesmanship to express a balf-covert wish for its suppression, or at least a desire to witness its natural death. By it all ne can the government appeal to the people or the people to the government. The stirring proclamation, the patriotic appeal find a voice through its columns. From its efforts great movemen s find their impetus, while its intelligence keeps the people from falling into that deadly apathy which flows from sombre conjecture and results in helpless despondency. It is therefore for the good, not of the newspaper conductors, few in number, but of the people, that as f w impediments as possible should be offered to the full transmission of reliable facts, not affecting future movements or combinations or even the present positions of troops,

taken or was it evacuated? These are questions. We publish elsewhere the report of Commodore Foote to the Federal Secretary of the Nevy, also certain remarks made in St. Louis on the 9th instant by General Halleck. There is an apparent discrepancy, but we can

knows there is plenty of ground for it, in connection b th with Number Ten and New Madrid. There has been altogether too much gas, and we may as well it-whiskey around with too many of our leaders. The harm that drunkenness has done the soldiers is enough ortainly, but who shall pretend to estimate the harm that has been done by drunken or even drinking officers. We must come down to stern facts. It is true the enemy lies and gasses. Halleck lies about Corinth, and the highest rank now in any prison or prisons in this they all lie generally about things in general, but if State. things go on as they have been going lately, they will be able to retort the accusation upon us with interest.

THE Convention of this State, which we think is the only one of those extraordinary bodies, the offspring of the movements of the last veir, which still maintains its existence, met last Monday in the Capitol at Raleigh. Were we inclined to indulge in any vein of sarcasm, certainly the tenacity with which this body clings to existence, the uncertainty of its ultimate course and the frequency of its returns to the field of its protracted labors would a ford ample scope for the indulgence of that humor. But the times are too serious, and the demand for earnestness too great to permit any deviation from plain statement, even for the purposes of irony. We do sincerely trust that the Convention and all its members are impressed with the gravity of the times, and that, throwing aside achemes of ambition, thoughts of preferment, or even measures of political change that might be safely broached in more quiet times, they will remember only the crisis that is upon us, only attend to the duties which it

That this body is an able one, no one will deny .-Ti at its members are individually respectable gentlemen will be generally conceded, yet that the people desire its protracted existence, or will look with favour ppon any extension of the powers claimed by it, or upon the continued exercise of these powers, is more than

What the Convention proposes to do we can hardly 93y. It is to be hoped that it will do nothing that can be salely avoided. Called into existence by a necessity.

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL, all exercise or assumption of powers beyond that neces- Wx receive to-day by telegraph, the report that Nashsity, or not clearly justified by it, must be regarded as ville had been retaken by Gens. E. Kirby Smith and an usurpation. The necess ty must be positive and not Humphrey Marshall. We must confess that all this merely speculative, else will it indeed be fairly liable to sppears to us to be very doubtful, but we give it as we the censure which denounces " necessity " as " the ty- get it. If the report had said Huntsville, we might rant's plea," as it too often is. Mere inferential neces- have been more ready to give it credence, since that was drawn, or the justice and wisdom of each one of its pro- It did not require the presence of the invaders to awasity is a most dangerous cover for assumed powers. It believed to be on the programme the last time we in under which all usurpations have taken place. It can glance at it. not be too closely watched by the people, nor too scrupulously avoided by their agents.

gated agents, with whatever representative powers the people may temporarily clothe them for any specific purpose. The rights of the people are indefeasible, and cannot by any-form of election pass from the people to off going clean through twell as though they known as the Conscription Law, of the late session, will any one hundred and twenty persons, no matter how intelligent they may be in fact, and how much more than intelligent they may seem in their own eyes. The people clothed a certain body with power for a certain purpose. That purpose was accomplished on the 20th day of May last, and any subsequent acts not absolutely re. quired to give force and effect to the ordinance of the 20th May, 1861, are wanting in moral sanction, and deprived of the plea which alone can justify their assumption, or acquit those concerned in it from the charge of fact that batteries at a thousand yards, were regarded seizes upon some apparently exceptions act, to afford it

We make these remarks with no wish to rip up old sores. To let bye-gones be bye-gones is usually a good and genial maxim: it is specially so in times like these-Let the evils of the past be buried with it, but do not let its lessons be neglected or its experience forgotten .-That the Convention has already protracted its existence and extended the sphere of its operations beyond the sanction derived from the people at the time of its election, or any subsequent endorsement by public opinion, is brought forward simply as a fact, not urged as a charge. We must believe that the majority of the members recognise this fact, as also the additional fact that now, still less than at any former time, is a fair oppor tunity presented for the discussion of changes in our fund, mental law or domestic policy. It is not fair, it i not just to the people of the East, whose eyes are turned in a wholly different direction, whose homes are menaced or invaded, and whose rights and feelings are certainly entitled to some little respect from their more fortunately situated brethren in other sections of the State.

In this connection, we find that the gubernatoria question occupies a place, since the proposition to choose a successor to Governor Clark by the convention, moot ed more than once before, is likely to be again revived under the plea of necessity. As we have said before. the doctrine of constructive necessity is one of the most dangerous that can be adopted or acted upon in the his. fication of which this doctrine is pleaded, is one which tends to the circumscription of popular rights, and to the acceleration of that process by which power is ever prone to steal from the many to the few. As the barons at Runnymede, so the people of North Carolina at this time. They were then unwilling to change the laws of England. The people now are unwilling to charge the laws of North Carolina. The selection of a Governor belongs to the people, and the necessity, to justify any deprivation of even suspension of this right, must be controlling indeed, and not merely speculative or inferential. It will not do to say that the convention is in fact the people. It is the creature of the people. Neither will it do to say that the convention being composed of a very able and a very good set of men, is better qual.fi d to choose a governor, and exercise other present as a time for the advancement of party ends or popular rights, than the people themselves. This is but private purposes. But as a whole, never has the press | the plea of all oligarchies and of all autocracies for that matter. Neither can it be said that the convenfion is free from party bias or personal aspiration. On the contrary, the Convention contains more aspirants in proportion to numbers, than any simlar body we have ever known. Our knowledge, we admit, is limited and our judgment may be defective, but in this matter we can freely appeal to any person who knows the public men of the State, to bear us out. We make this not as a charge, we state it as a fact. We can bardly admit the peculiar acceptability of the Convention as an elective body; and any election by that body will be most clearly an usurpation, unless justified by an overruling necessity, amounting to some insuperable obstacle to the direct exercise of the power of elec-

As for the gubernatorial question, apart from the Convention, we have already said that we desire a sus pension of discussion for the time being. We have but facts as to things that have actually happened and made no attack upon anybody because others have which must be as well known to the enemy as to cur- hoisted their names. We have hoisted the name of no person. This is no time to indulge in the old political Now this fall of Island Number Ten was not so un- man cervre to forestall public opinion by publishing expected as that its announcement should have created little scraps of letters as the voice of the people. Such any panic. Indeed the public had been prepared for it, things are out of place and out of time now. We have and the Memphis papers said something about it, and referred to charges preferred against Mr. Johnston, not then it appears to Lave been hushed up. It is a mis- as they were calculated to effect his candidacy, but as take that disasters need to be concealed from true peo- they were aimed at a large class of the citizens of the ple. Roanoke and Donelson only stimulated such .- State to whom the proscription directed against Mr. The wavering or the unfaithful seem to find them out at Johnston would equally apply. Mr. Johnston is a very

WE continue to receive letters from perfectly responsible parties in Onslow county, in reference to the recent Federal outrages there, confirming all that we have already stated, and representing the state of things in Jones and Oaslow as distressing in the extreme. As Our Richmond and other cotemporaries comment | however, these letters simply contain details already given tobbe public, we forbear their publication at present, especially as we know that the military authorities have been fully informed as to this matter.

Retaliation is the only resource that we see left to put a stop to outrages disgraceful to humanity and lative of all the rules of civilized warfare. Let Ger Burnside be at once as prized that whatever severity is shown or indignity offered to the persons of the humblest citizen of North Carolina, will be publicly inflicted, in retaliation, upon the Federal officer or officers of

The wildest reports are in circulation in Onslow, and f the most contradictory character. That many of them are exaggerated and some of them groundless we have no doubt, and indeed in the state of feeling produced by the incursion of the enemy this was to have been anticipated. We have given no mere rumours, our statements being founded generally upon official reports; and yet we cannot vouch for their entire accuracy, since. with the most conscientious endeavour, our informants themselves may have been unable to seperate rumour from facts or avoid unintentional error. We feel confident, however, that the statemeents of our correspondents are in the main correct, or at least as nearly so as they could be made under the circumstances.

Later from the Battle of Shiloh. The following dispatch appears in the Richmond pa-

pers of last Saturday :-CORINTH. April 17, 1862 .- Report of Commanders

Extract of a Letter to the Editors of the Journal, dated KINSTON, N. C., APRIL 18th, 1862. No news of interest affost here at present. Our pickets No news of interest affect bere at present. Our pickets gentleman from whom we heard it went. We believe nition for a long cruise, and great fears were entertainscoundrels were killed last night.

It is the opinion of some that Burnalde is preparing to advance. My own opinion is, that there will be no advance in this direction until a decisive action shall have taken place on the Peninsula; if the Federals are defeated there, we may not expect any advance by Suraside.

Up to this time we are blessed with good health in all our

Louis very truly,

The news from the Charleston Courier about the fall of Pulaski only confirms us in our first opinion. Our house of Congress, must have been conclusive with us in Conventions are but representative bodies, mere dele- first feeling on hearing of the sudden fall of that work, favour of some such action. The interests of the public was one of blank astonishment; our first opinion was service forbid any more minute reference to these mat that all could not be right. The big stories of breaches | ters, but hereafter when the seal of secrecy is removed. made in less than no time-of-balls fired nearly a mile | we feel assured that the members who voted for what i were sheets of paper, and all and sundry the other state- be fully exonerated from all the blame cast upon them before reported,) formerly an officer of the United States We happened to recollect that our batteries on Morris that the time for removing the injunction of secrecy Island were considerably nearer to Fort Sumter than not sufficiently near at hand to frustrate their present cepted a large mail from the fort, from which much val- Among the recent arrivals I notice the Seventeent any land batteries that the enemy could possibly plant objects of making capital for selfish purposes. We have against Pulaski, and we know that Sumter was not no confidence in the mere organic servility that, as a breached at all by our fire. We also happened to have matter of course, endorses all the acts of those in ausome recollection of the Crimean war, and of the thority, and as little in the "forcible-feebleness" that approaches so actively, that their last parallel was so near to the Russian works that the smoke and flash or the guns of the contending parties almost blinded both. We dida't more than half believe that the Fort could have been breached as asserted. We don't believe a word of it now. The Northern military and civil authorities may well be struck with the ridiculous conduct of those in charge of a Fort who made no effort to prevent the completion of all the preparations for its capture, and when these preparations were finished, hardly made a show of resistance.

If this is to be the history of our lorts, if they are to be abandoned as soon as there appears to be a danger that somebody may be burt, then they had better all be b'own up at once. It is strange to read of the seiges sastained by the hired mercenaries of European monarchies :- to see how they have held out for days and weeks and months, until food grew scarce and they ate their very boots, and they were on short allowance of water and the walls crumbled around them, and death was busy in their thinned ranks and in their emaciated frames :- it is strange, we say to read these things. and then to read of Southern freemen fighting for their owe homes and the homes of all that ought to be dear | vouid have as few as anybody could have. to them, giving up a lost after thirty-two hours of fire, not breached and with very lew casualties, while the bovish commander assures the world that he has " done all that man can do!"

sort of thing must be stopped or the war might as well stop. The time for concealments and "soft sodder" is past. The thirg must be changed. Man must do better. Mere inexperienced youths must not be put in such isolated posts requiring strength of mind, experience and will. The press and the public must put their face against these unresisting capitulations, and that will do more for the country than any tale of horrors that ever happened, or any attempt to justify what is not susceptible even of excuse save upon the ground of imbecility, and then the burden of blame rests on the positions of responsibility. We want stern, determined men, who will have a moral ascendency over their commands, as well as the mere formula of a commission, and who are self-balanced and prepared for any emergency

Daily Journal, 22d inst The Convention,-The Governorship

any hocus pocus it can make five, we no doubt fell into

scribed for the regulation of the human constitution. mental and physical. It was once thought that the to have taken into consideration the fact that men must die during their term of office, as well as at any other time. Seeing this, they made provision to fill any vecancy arising from the death, absence or inability of the that, having their attention directed to this very matter. they left their business ridiculously incomplete, and left the space of time between the first Thursday in August liable, though not likely to occur every other year. To eight or nine hundred, will prove correct suppose that this thing could have e-caped the attention taken or would not have to be evacuated. Was it claims. There are no claims, but those of the country of the Convention of 1835, is to ascribe to that body an amount of willful fatuity, the length and breadth depth and thickness of which it required the immense Yet the presumption that the Convention of 1835 left num in the Executive department is that upon which the Convention must proceed, if it declares the existence of a vacancy in the Executive from and after the of the throat; that the route he took was occupied by first Thursday in August next, and proceeds to supply that vacancy, either by its own direct action, or by providing for an extraordinary election by the people, in to suppose that men had died before 1835, and, indeed, there is some evidence that the Convention of that year was not wholly ignorant of this fact, or of the further fact that every man was liable to die at least once, and that at no particularly stated time. This evidence is afforded by its providing for the contingency of death on the part of the Governor; but such a provision! if the understanding of the present Convention is the correct one. To suppose such an understanding correct would be to attribute to the leading minds of the not remote past a degree of obtusity which it is disrespectful in their descendants, successors or survivors to look

> However, as all things are possible, we need only add that our remarks as to the remoteness of the time for holding an election for Governor were based upon the assumption that such election would take place at the usual time, and in the usual manner. As we have no assurance of that, or of anything else, we fear our remarks will have but little practical value.

WE have been asked more than once if Mr. Graham is really a candidate for Governor, or would even consent to be run. We do not know. We heard that dushow that 14 pieces of the enemy's artillery were brought ring former sessions of the Convention, when the idea from the field of battle. Over 25 colors and 3,000 pris- of an election by that body was mooted, Mr. Graham

> without his own consent, we can of say. It cannot be without his own knowledge. In ne the man, after all, that is really meant by the pushers? We will see if we the Federal's the slip, leaving in an open boat.
>
> Mobile Advertiser.

The Conscription Law, &c.

altogether upon our being satisfied of its necessity.

visions, we are not prepared to speak, neither can we ken the feeling of infidelity to the Confederacy in that is beyond controversy and without exception the plea this part of the world were permitted to take a slight adduce the facts or reasonings upon which our concluspot, we apprehend :sion of the necessity for some bill of this kind is based. but they are such, as bad we been a member of either ments no doubt honestly made by the Savannah papers, by those who are either ignorant themselves, on presume sounded strangely to plain sort of people like ourselves. upon the ignorance of others, feeling secure in the belief as almost useless, and that floally the allies worked their | the chance of exhibiting a sort of galvanized vitality. which everybody knows is no part of its real life or They have been storped, but as many of his troops be- were suddenly attacked by a party of about thirty

MR. MERCIER, the French Minister, has returned to Washington, and we are about as wise as we were before, in reference to the objects of his visit to Richmond. That he does not like Seward personally, we are pertain, but that his visit to Richmond was for any purpose of alliance with the South, of intervention in her favour, or of immediate recognition, we do not think. We care to-indulge in no speculations, but we think it as well to put our people upon their guard against forming apy anticipations based upon this visit of the French minister. Just now, we would rather be let alone. Until some more decided successes have crowned our arms, we have more to fear than to hope from European intervention.

THE GOLDSBORO' TRIBUNE, we are happy to see, is not in the least deed, but alive and hearty. The Tri- away with them all the locomotives and cars of the At- gunboats will effectually prevent any advance of the bune hints that there be people that would like to see it venerable cotemporary, the Editor of the Tribune, rolling stock left by them, there are also some hand cars, at its destruction; but the vigilance of the General and

A letter from Beaufort, N. C. of the 10th inst. published in the New York Herald, among other things

Major Allen, who is the Provost Marshal of Beaupersons to a family, it will be seen that out of the pop-

bern, furnishes the following information :

The rebel Generals Gatlin and Branch, who commanded the enemy previous to the fight here, have been arrested be order of the authorities at Richmond, and are now in confinement at Goldsboro', awaiting trial by court Martial. They are charged with cowardice upon that and previous occasions. The rebel prisoners, now in our hands, numbering about 150, including Col appointing power. We have too many mere boys in Avery, are to be sent North in a few days, under the recent order of the War department to release no prisoners until Col. Corcoran is set at liberty. They are board the transport Cossack, Capt. J. W. Bennett,

From the Norfolk Day Book, 22d inst.

The steamer Arrow arrived here last night, bringing a couple of our wounded, and two Yankee prisoners. Owing to an unfortunate habit we have of thinking members of the 89th New York Regiment. She also brought 1100 pounds of ammunition and some ten or

> aboard the boat, who were engaged in the fight. The action began at 12 o'clock, at a point two miles

north of South Mills; whither our forces had proceeded for the purpose of attacking the enemy. Georgia Regiment and McComas' Artillery. The companies were not fall and the whole number of men on r side may be set down at from three to five hundred The enemy's force, by their own admission, through the prisoners captured by us, consisted of five regiments. namely: the 9 h New York (Z waves.) 89 h New York, Col. Hawkins, 4th Pennsylvania, 31st Mas-

sachusette, and a New Hampshire Regiment, in com mand of Brig. Gen. Reno. The battle lasted until 51% o'clock, P. M., when our forces were ordered to fall back on their entrenchments at South Mills, which they did in good order. The enemy encamped on the ground, but during the night be-

They made a regular stampede, and so fearful were die sometime, and that Governors being but men, may they of our prowess, that, as they fled, they burned the killed, and about twenty-five wounded. The en my's Governor. But so stupid were they, as we are told, tainty. On the field were a number of graves, and

> prisoners, that they lost many of their officers; and from all we have been able to gather, it is probable that

land 10 arrived in this city yesterday morning. Many of them endured great privations and fatigue. Among the arrivals was the brave Captain Rucker, the hero of tended with the enemy's gunboats. We were pleased ed with rosin and turpentine. Guards have been placed to find him well and hearty. He hopes to be in a po- on both versels by Major Allen. sition again before long to try his very best efforts against the enemy. He is strongly of opinion that ex-Mayor Baugh is a prisoner. He says Mr. Baugh was feeble from sickness; he was suffering from an affection the enemy soon after his departure. We have spoken with others, however, who dissent from the opinion and upon the ramparts. Colonel White has taken down the asser, that he fell in company with Mr. Merriweather, lighthouse to the left of the Fort and burned other who is intimately acquainted with every foot of the advance of the usual time. Plain people would be apt | country, and that he arrived safely on this side of Reel-

Capt. Rucker was the bearer of the following, addressed to us by Lieut. Thomas J. Finnie :

FDITORS APPEAL: The men comprising the companies of Capts. A. Jackson, Sterling, Rucker, Jones and Caruthers, of the Artillery, also a few men with Lieut. Bugget and a few from the 1st Ala. and the 12th Ark. infantry are here safe, but very destitute of comforts, as their only pussessions consist of the clothes they wear. T. J. FINNEY.

First Lieutenant Artillery, C. S. Bell's Station M. & O. R. R., Apl. 11, '62. Bell's Station is the place of rend zvous. Memphis Appeal, 13th inst.

FROM HAVANA AND KEY WEST .- We are ndebted to the Captain of a vessel, which arrived yesterday evening from Havana, for late Northern papers. She brings an assorted cargo, consisting of coffee, tea, soda ash. ead, kerosene oil, &c. She had a good run from Ha- delighted at our presence and the discomfiture of their vana making the fleet off Pensacola at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. She gave them a wide berth, and favored by a strong southwest wind, came kiting through willing and anxious to do all they can to aid us. A good presented by a committee, of whom one Peleg Carket the swash, rounding Mobile Point at twenty minutes many of the more valueble of the slaves have been car-

The fleet off Pensacola consisted of eighteen sailtwo square rigged, the rest apparently mortar vessels. Passed the Miramon ten miles out from Havana, bound in, and another Northern steamer, painted green, a few hours afterwards.

From a passenger on board recently from Key West we learn that the conversation there was of a simultaneous attack upon Fort Pulaski and New Orleans .-The Federals expected something from their large vespositively would not accept, even if chosen. This was sels, but not much from the mortar boats, one of which, on what we supposed to be good authority; it certainly in some experimental firing at Key West, " shook herwas, so far as the means of information possessed by the self to pieces." It was the understanding there that

THE following from Northern papers may have some We said at the time of first publishing this law that interest. We do not know what credit to attach to our idea of how far it might be justifiable must depend much of it, but fear that there is too much truth in reported genuine "union" feeling about Beaufore-or Georgia, the gunboat Chippewa, the propeller Athatros As to the ability with which this particular bili is perhaps we should say, want of Southern feeling there. and the bark Gemabok. The officers of the blockading

> BEAUFORT, N. C., March 31 .- The chief interest of the proposed investment of Fort Macon, which, as sta- officiating. There was very good attendance of the ted in my last letter, is situated about equi-distant from ple of the place, and the rector read the prayer for Beaufort and Morehead City, across Bogue Sound. President of the United States, the Senators and Re-The distance from these places to the fort is about a resentatives, and all who are in authority, in places mile and a quarter. It is a small fortification, but very the one for the President of the Southern Confederace strongly built, and is garrisoned by about six hundred &c., previously used. men, under the command of Col. White, (not Smith, as

> INTERCEPTION OF A MAIL. who is in command at Beaufort, a few days since in er- with troops, reinforcements coming torward rapidly nable information was obtained in regard to the condi- Massachusetts—who present a five appearance and are tion of the troops, the supply of provisions, &c.

army, and a graduate of West Point.

SUPPLIES AT THE FORT. The fort is supplied with sufficient of certain kinds of provisions to last several months, but of others the stock is very short. Col. White, who appears to be a misan- rebel cavalry on our pickets, who are stationed for about thropic, sullen and unhealthy style of man, threatened ten miles towards Kinston. During the night two to shell Beaufort if his fresh provisions were stopped mounted pickets, who were stationed in the advance long to, and have relatives and triends in that city, he mounted men. has probably thought better of it, his threat not having been executed. He compensates himself for this, how- and one of them escaped, receiving quite a severe worm ever, by firing upon every fishing smack or other craft, in the back of his head. He was pursued by one of the however small, which attempts to pass between Beau- party nearly up to where the other pickets were station. fort and Morehead City, both of which places are occu- ed. The horse of the other man came in without to pied by Union troops. The reduction of the fort is but rider. A strong party was immediately sent out he a question of time and labor, but Col. White is evi- failed to find the missing man, who is supposed to have dently disposed to put our forces to all the trouble pos- been made a prisoner. They found the dead body a sible, there seeming to be no other reason for his rejusal one of the enemy, shot through the heart, and contured to surrender at discretion what he must soon be forced another of them. It is reported that the rebels have

Your correspondent lest Newbern Thursday, P. M., where they are said to be in considerable force. in the steam transport Union, Capt. Chambers, who It is not probable, however, that they will make an took a cargo of ordinance stores and atmy wagons and attack on the forces stationed here, although such may horses, under charge of Lieut. Flagler, of Gen. Burn- have been their intention previous to the arrival of a side's staff, to Havelock Station, near the head of Slo- inforcements. cum's creek, from whence they are to be sent to the scene of operations.

ATLANTIC AND NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD. lantic and North Carolina railroad (except a few plat- rebel ferces and secure the safety of the town. The rail form and hand-cars) to Kinston and Goldsborough, and of the rebels at their humiliating deteat on the 14th and burned one bridge between Newbern and Kinston, by the subsequent occupation of this city by the Union sides the long bridge at Newbern. In addition to the forces, is so great that they would undoubtedly reight brought from the North by Gen. Burnside, all of which are found very useful in transporting the army stores ing even this. They must wait as contentedly as nosand material. A locomotive and additional rolling stock will also soon be here from the North, which will very of the campain causes another advance upon them and largely increase the usefulness to the army of this road. | adds another defeat to those already experienced. It is occupied and guarded between Newbern and Morehead City by the Rhole Island 5th. Haveleck Station is in charge of Capt. Arnold's company, and at | the 14th ult., have since been released by Gen. Burnsie present is of considerable importance.

ulation of the place, which is about 1600, three-fourths ed by a detachment from Fort Macon on Tuesday, the are loyal to the Union. 18th-four days after the battle at Newbern-and al-Another letter of the same date, written from New- most entirely destroyed. The bridge was 180 feet long, run her upon the obstructions which had been placed in and very substantial and well built. REBUILDING OF A BRIDGE.

> excellent civil engineer and a practical bridge builder, dition. The balance of the priseners are still confine as well as a most valuable officer, was detailed by Gen. on board the Albany. Burnside to inspect the ruins of the bridge and report in regard to its reconstruction. He was subsequently ordered to occupy Newport with his battalion, where Burnside's command, when the reinforcements are all they arrived on Sunday, the 23d inst. They took possession of Camp Graham, an excellent encampment of substantial log houses, sufficient for the accommodation of a large force, which had been built by the rebels and abandoned by them after the late fight.

The houses were left in very good condition, and only one or two of them had been burned. Captain M. D. Field with a party of mechanics, had also been detailed to assist in the reconstruction of the bridge. Work was immediately commenced, and, assisted by a few contrabands picked up in the neighborhood, has been pushed twelve boxes of 12 lb. howitzer shot, captured by our vigorously ahead, and a great amount of labor performed in a very brief time. Under ordinary circumstances, We gathered the following particulars from several the reconstruction of the bridge would have required at least five or six weeks. Cars were run over the bridge on Friday evening, the 28th inst., and it was completed in a substantial and durable manner on the 29th. There is nothing now to prevent the rapid transmission of material required to reduce the fort, and operations for that purpose will be at once commenced and vigorously

tification erected by the rebels to command the county road at Newport, was taken down and the lumber trans ported to, and used in the reconstruction of the bridge. The Rhode Island Fifth, in addition to this duty and the charge of the railroad, have pickets thrown out at Newport over a circuit of two miles-nearly every man of Major Whight's battalion being constantly engaged in these various duties.

The detachment from Fort Macon, in addition to the destruction of this bridge, burned a large rebel encampment near Carolina City, which had also been abandoned by them after the Newbern fight.

ENGLISH VESSELS DETAINED. The ships Alkance, Captain DeForrest, from St. John, N. B., and Condor, of Liverpool, Captain Goodwig, are lying at the dock at More ead City. The Alliance is load d with a cargo of rosin and turp ntine, and has, also, four baies of cotton on board. She was originally from Liverpool, and arrived off Charleston in June, and finding that port blockaded, proceeded to St. and the first day of January an incidental interregnum, the statement we gave yesterday of their loss, namely, John, N. B., where she discharged her cargo and took in an assorted cargo; what it was, I believe the Government are fully informed. She arrived at Beaufort August 22d, and landed her cargo on the 25th, at the dock at Morehead City Two days after, she was loaded with her return cargo; but the United States blockading steamers arriving off this port, the ship has not acumen of the present body to measure and ponderate. Rucker's Battery, that so obstinately and daringly con. since attempted to go to sea. The Condor is also load-

> A vessel was burned near the Fort on the 28th, but by whom is not known, probably to prevent her falling into the hands of the Union forces.

The Stars and Bars float defiantly over the Fort, and with a glass the sentine's can be seen pacing to and fro buildings, in order to leave nothing to interfere with the range of the guns, which are placed en barbette.

Morehead City and Beautort are occupied by a detachment. The Union flag which floats over Beaulort was found in the Post- Office in that place. DOUBTFUL UNION SENTIMENT.

None but Union men, of course, are to be found in the district occupied by the Union troops, but the genuinces of this pretended Union sentiment is very doubtful. It is remarkable, if we may believe the stories told by those who have friends in the rebel army, that so Carolina. many have been forced unwillingly into the rebel service. As yet I have been unable, in conversing with the citizens of this State, to hear of any one under the rank of Captain in their army who has not been drafted, or volunteered to save themselves from being drafted. That there are genuine friends of the Union here is unquestionable, and some of them white, but the majority are of the contraband class, who seem universally

masters. They appear to be well informed in regard to the causes and the probable effect of this struggle, and were written at the dictation of the Common Council ried off by their owners in their flight, and the jail at Goldsboro's is said to be filled with them, placed there session of the hills opposite the town and hold them for sale keeping. GENUINE UNION FEELING IN BRAUFORT.

There appears to be more real Union scotiment at Beaufort than in any other place in North Carolina yet habitants of Fredericksburg there will be no respect occupied by our troops. Our forces were met by the private property or individual rights. Five Y skee go Mayor on landing, and cordially welcomed to the city. A large majority of the citizens profess to be favorable to the Union cause, and Major Ailen's quarters are constantly thronged with those desirous of taking the oath that point to operate against Richmond. of allegiance. The postmaster and some other citizens have left the city, but the most of them have remained.

Mr. Graham is now rushed forward, whether with or

ed that she would visit that port. The vessels at Key
West were the Nisgara, the Mohawk, and two other
ty-one hundred dollars in Confederate currency, which inferior steamers, and a few transports. A few days be had received for the duties on the cargoes of the vesbefore our informent left, Captain Campbell, of the sels which had run the blockade, was found in his pos-Mallory, and four Key West Secessionists, had given session. He is now held a prisoner. He is represented of General Shields, the Fed ral commander at the bate

this section of the State.

BLOCKADING VESSELS.

There are four vessels outside blockading the post and which will co-operate with the land forces in durtion of Fort Macon. They are the steamer State of fleet communicate with the officers in command at Bean fort. First Lieutenant Haxton, of the State of Georgia having landed a few days since, and, subsequently another officer from the fleet, without molestation

SERVICES AT THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH At the Episcopal Church in this town, this morning the Burnside expedition is at present mainly centred in services were held as usual -the regular chargen

LETTER FROM NEWBERN.

NEWBERN, N. W., April 31, 1869 After a few days' absence at Beautort I returned to Major Allen of the Fourth Rhode Is and regiment, this city yesterday afternoon. The streets are still alive much admired—and the First Maryland Regiment. ATTACK ON OUR PICKETS.

There has been some excitement here to day, in con sequence of an attack, on Monday night, by a party of

They tell back rapidly towards the infantry picket

advanced a brigade eight miles this side of Kuston

CONTRABANDS IN THE UNION BREASTWORKS. General Burnside has a large force of contrabanda meased in constructing breastworks about halt a mis-After the rouse of the rebels at Newbern, they took | beyond the relirond depot, which, with the aid of the his officers and men leave them no hope of accomplishsible, until the policy of General Eurnside and the blan

THE PRISONERS TAKEN ON THE 14TH. and sent to Washington, N. C. They were sent to The bridge over the river at Newport City was burn- Pamlico river in the steamer Hussar, and there transterred to the captured steamer Albemarle. The pilot the Albematle, either through ignorance or accidethe river, and she finally suck, but not until after th orisoners were landed. It is thought she may be raise Major Wright, of the Fifth Rhode Island, who is an and repaired. She was a very useful boat to the expe

The enlarged proportions of the division under Ger here, will require a reorganization of the whole force.

The following items of news we extract from the

NEWS FROM THE FEDERAL FLEET .- Captain Krong, Mr.

equar, and two other prisoners, captured by the Federal short time since, have been released by order of Commo ore Dupout. They reached Caper's Island Natu day, an The Federal report of the bomba dment of

ates that seventeen of their own number were abled aptain Magrath and son they intend to hold prisoners

The officers say that four iron-clad vessels were nearly d by their other guabouts, they designed to attack DESERTERS -A report has reached this city which say

hat five persons, consisting of four men and a boy came shore in a boat from the Tincoln blockade on rate day ght, and landed on antivan's Island, where they are now The Yankee invaders at Port Royal, at our last second

were suffering from sickness even in March As the seas ongestive fever, typhoid fever, remittent fever, cholen morbus and variola. There are also reports of pneuminia hree deaths are charged to gunshot wounds under date ( G. Et. LEGER GRENFELL, lately a Lieutenant-Colorel in

ANOTHER PLOT OF VILLAINY .- THREE MEN KILLS? of spies and suspicious persons, particularly on our line ailroad, occurred sunday morning, on the South Car all Hoad, and, we regret to state, was attended with loss

t nder, a car containing cattle, a bex car and two place Mr. Mat. Shay, of this city, and Mr. J. Ahrens, a boo

All the other passengers miraculously escaped without jary. The cars were crowned. The car containing iorses and other caule was turned ever, and si guid enough without injury to any of the cattle. We hope the villain who committed the deel will be

From Frederickshu g.

We have information that the Yankees had not occupied Fredericksburg at 7 o'clock yesterday morning, the ga they were in force on the opposite side of the river, and it was expected they would advance into the town some time during the day. They were re-building the Portsmoul bridge, and had it nearly completed. It is further stated that the authorities of Fredericksburg seld an interview on Saturday with the Federal commonder, under a flig of truce, and that he promised the citaprotection," It will doubtless be such protecti a as Burns de's miscreants are giving to the people of North

The cars from this city went up vesterday as far as Guinney's Depot, twelve railes from Fredericksburg. The track of the railroad has not been torn up. Only two steamers were burnt by our town was evacuated-the St. Nicholas and the Virginia We learn that the commander of the Eureka took his down the river, and she will probably be captured by the

Since the foregoing was in type we have conversed w a gentleman who left Fredericksburg a day or two sinin command of the enemy is a General Earger or Year The terms of surrender, which have not yet trans Northern man by birth, was chairman. It is stated to the Federal officer replied that he had no power to trea with the citizens; that his orders were simply to take po however, gracefully offered to pay for such supplies as he needed, and which would have to be forthcoming when called for. The notorious rickies is on hand with his bills boats were some miles below the town, where certain structions in the river caused their detention. From all all pearances it seems to be the design of the enemy to concentrate a large force at or near Fredericksburg, and from

The surrender of the town without a show of resistance when we had a considera le force in the immediate neight borhood, excites some indignant remarks, but it seems bave been the orgent desire of the civil auto rities that no defence should be made. - Richmond Dispaich, itsl mel-

GEN. SHIELDS .- The Lynchburg R publican of Friday, says that a private litter from the Valley to a get tleman in that city, announces, with certainty, the death as baving been one of the most violent Secessionists in the of Herastown, who, it will be remembered, was badly wounded in the arm and shoulder.